

**Apply for Cal Grants
by March 2, 2002**

To receive Cal Grant A and B Entitlement Awards, students must file a complete Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), and a certified Grade Point Average (GPA) Verification Form postmarked **no later than March 2, 2002**.

Each January 1 starts the application process when students can file a FAFSA online at www.fafsa.ed.gov or obtain a FAFSA from their high school counselor or college financial aid office.

Get a FAFSA PIN now!

Students may log onto the Internet from a computer and go to www.fafsa.ed.gov. Then, click on the "Getting Started" button and follow the prompts. It's quick and easy.

To file a FAFSA online, students need a PIN, and parents or guardians need a PIN, too.

Cal Money for College Grant

Cal Grant Awards guaranteed for students who qualify

Beginning with 2001, the Cal Grant Program was expanded to guarantee financial aid to those students meeting eligibility requirements. Thanks to this change, college is now more affordable than ever for students with good grades and financial need. The best part is that Cal Grant Awards cost nothing to apply for and do not have to be repaid!

Since 2001, students who meet the following criteria are guaranteed grants:

Cal Grant A Entitlement Awards

Requirements include financial and basic eligibility (see box at right), a minimum 3.0 grade point average (GPA), and graduation from high school in 2000–01 or later. This Entitlement Award provides for full fees at the California State University and the University of California, as well as tuition support at private California colleges and universities.

Cal Grant B Entitlement Awards

Requirements include financial and basic eligibility, a minimum 2.0 GPA, and graduation from high school in 2000–01 or later. This Entitlement Award provides up to \$1,551 for books and living expenses

for the first year. Beginning with the second year of Cal Grant B benefits, this award also helps pay for tuition and fees at public or private four-year colleges or other qualifying institutions.

California Community College Transfer Entitlement Awards

Students who meet financial and basic eligibility requirements, have a minimum 2.4 GPA from a California Community College, and graduate from high school

in 2000–01 or later are eligible for this award when transferring from a community college to a four-year institution. This Entitlement Award is offered to California Community College students who were not awarded a Cal Grant within a year of graduating from high school, but meet certain requirements at the time of transfer from a California Community College to a qualifying institution offering baccalaureate degree programs.

Basic Cal Grant eligibility requirements

All Cal Grant applicants must:

- Be California residents
- Be U.S. citizens or eligible non-citizens
- Meet U.S. Selective Service requirements
- Attend a qualifying California postsecondary institution
- Be enrolled at least half-time
- Maintain satisfactory academic progress as defined at the school of attendance
- Have family income and assets below the established ceilings
- **Not** be in default on any student loan
- **Not** owe any federal or state grant refund



CALIFORNIA
STUDENT AID
COMMISSION

Other Cal Grant programs

Students who are not eligible for a Cal Grant Entitlement Award may compete for a Cal Grant Competitive Award. Following is a description of these awards:

Cal Grant A and B Competitive Awards

These awards are similar to the Cal Grant A and B Entitlement Awards, except that they are not guaranteed. Each year, 22,500 Cal Grant A and B Competitive Awards are available to those students who did not receive an Entitlement Award. Cal Grant A Awards are intended for students with a minimum 3.0 GPA and are from low- and middle-income families. The awards provide grant funds to help pay tuition and fees at qualifying institutions offering academic programs of at least two years in length. Cal Grant B Awards are intended for students with a minimum 2.0 GPA and are from disadvantaged and low-income families. The awards are to be used for tuition, student fees, and access costs in a for-credit instructional program of not less than one year in length. The first year's Cal Grant B Award is for access costs only, including living expenses and expenses for transportation, supplies, and books. Beginning with the second year of Cal Grant B benefits, this award also helps pay for tuition and fees at public or private four-year colleges or other qualifying institutions.

Cal Grant income and asset ceilings 2002–2003

	Cal Grant A, C and T	Cal Grant B
Income Ceilings		
Dependent students and independent students with dependents other than a spouse		
Family size:		
Six or more	\$76,500	\$42,000
Five	\$70,900	\$38,900
Four	\$66,200	\$34,800
Three	\$60,900	\$31,300
Two	\$59,400	\$27,800
Independent students		
Single, no dependents	\$24,300	\$24,300
Married, no other depend	\$27,800	\$27,800
Asset Ceilings		
Dependent students *	\$51,200	\$51,200
Independent students	\$24,400	\$24,400

*These ceilings also apply to independent students with dependents **other** than a spouse.

Cal Grant C Awards

Cal Grant C Awards are available to assist students with tuition, fee, and training costs for occupational or vocational programs. The \$576 Cal Grant C Award provides for books, tools, and equipment. Students planning to attend a school

other than a California Community College may also receive up to \$2,592 in assistance. To qualify for Cal Grant C Awards, students must meet basic eligibility requirements and be enrolled in a vocational program that is at least four months in length.

For additional information about Cal Grant eligibility requirements

Please visit the California Student Aid Commission Web site at www.csac.ca.gov. Contact the Commission's Customer Service staff at 888-224-7268 (888-CA-GRANT) or by e-mail at custsvcs@csac.ca.gov.

This brochure may be reproduced or placed on your Web site.



California Student Aid Commission
P. O. Box 419026
Rancho Cordova, CA 95741-9026